

**New Jersey State Board of Education
Minutes of the Meeting of the New Jersey State Board of Education
In the Conference Room on the First Floor
100 River View Executive Plaza
Trenton, NJ**

April 11, 2018

Presiding: Arcelio Aponte, President

Secretary: Lamont O. Repollet, Ed. D., Acting Commissioner

PRESENT CONSTITUTING A QUORUM

Mrs. Mary Beth Berry
Mrs. Elaine Bobrove
Mr. Jack Fornaro
Dr. Ernest Lepore
Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Gazi
Dr. Nedd J. Johnson
Mr. Andrew Mulvihill
Dr. Joseph L. Ricca
Mrs. Sylvia Sylvia
Mrs. Fatimah Burnam-Watkins

ABSENT

Dr. Ronald Butcher
Mrs. Kathy Goldenberg

CONVENING

State Board of Education President Arcelio Aponte convened the public meeting at 9:00 a.m. with the reading of the statement pertaining to the public session of the State Board meeting as it complies with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act.

The Open Public Meetings Act was enacted to insure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meeting of public bodies at which any business affecting their interest is discussed or acted upon.

In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the State Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place thereof posted in the Department of Education, Secretary of State's Office and notice also having been given to the State House Press Corps, the Governor's Office and the State Board agenda subscribers.

And seeing there was a quorum, the meeting of April 11, 2018 was called to order.

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Aponte then read the resolution pertaining to the executive session of the State Board meeting as it complies with the Open Public Meetings Act.

WHEREAS, in order to protect the personal privacy and to avoid situations wherein the public interest might be disserved, the Open Public Meetings Act permits public bodies to exclude the public from that portion of a meeting at which certain matters are discussed, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that consistent with the provision of N.J.S.A. 10:4-12.b, the State Board Education will now adjourn to executive session to discuss personnel and legal issues. The State Board immediately adjourned to executive session on April 11, 2018.

RECONVENING

State Board President Arcelio Aponte reconvened the open meeting at 10:20 a.m. with the reading of the resolution pertaining to the resumption of the public session of the State Board meeting as it complies with the Open Public Meetings Act.

WHEREAS, consistent with the provision of N.J.S.A. 10:4-12.b, the State Board will now adjourn from executive session to resume the open session of this meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board members approved the minutes of the public meeting conducted on February 12, 2018. State Board member Ernest Lepore abstained from voting on the minutes of the meeting on February 12, 2018.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Announcements

Public Testimony

President Aponte stated public testimony would not be held today at 2 pm. He also stated that the State Board would be holding a public testimony session on May 2, 2018. He further stated that registration for the May 2, 2018, public testimony session will open on Thursday, April 12, 2018, and close at noon on Thursday, April 26, 2018.

President Aponte stated that the topic for the May 2 public testimony session will be Religious Holidays Calendar Resolution. He also stated that the May 2 public testimony session would be an Open Topic Public Testimony session meaning registered members of the public may speak on any educational topic of their choice.

He also stated that anyone interested in speaking at and/or also attending the public testimony session must register so the State Board staff can make proper arrangements for space. He further stated that members of the public should contact the State Board office at 609-984-6024 or check the following website <http://education.state.nj.us/sboe/reg.php> for updates.

Moment of Silence

President Aponte requested a moment of silence to acknowledge the 17 lives that were lost in the horrific incident that occurred in Florida at the Marjorie Stoneman Douglas High School.

School Security Report

Ben Castillo, Director of the Office of School Preparedness and Emergency Planning and Nancy Curry, Director of the Office of Student Support Services provided a presentation about school security focusing on current school security requirements and to discuss recommendations to those requirements.

Report by Karan Chauhan, Permanent Student Representative

President Aponte welcomed Karan Chauhan the 2017-2018 permanent student representative to the State Board of Education. Karan Chauhan is a senior from Parsippany Troy-Hills High School in Morris County. Karan spoke to the State Board about student safety in schools.

Resolution in Honor of Edithe Fulton

On behalf of the State Board, President Aponte presented Ms. Edithe Fulton with a resolution honoring her for her service as a member of the State Board. Ms. Fulton has served on the board since 2007.

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board approved the following resolution read by State Board member Marybeth Gazi:

RESOLUTION TO HONOR EDITHE FULTON

WHEREAS, Edithe Fulton has served with distinction as a member of the New Jersey State Board of Education since 2007; and

WHEREAS, throughout her tenure, Edithe Fulton served with dedication on the legal, legislative, and student health and safety committees and most recently on the Strategic Plan Committee; and

WHEREAS, Edithe Fulton faithfully gave of her time to hear members of the public testify about important education issues and used that feedback to inform her decisions on critical issues before the State Board; and

WHEREAS, Edithe Fulton's strong belief in the State Board's role and responsibility in the development of education policy was embodied in her willingness to travel the State to visit schools and to attend meetings and conferences of various local, county and State education stakeholder groups; and

WHEREAS, Edithe Fulton exhibited a strong commitment to enhancing the quality of education in New Jersey's public schools by directing her efforts toward the implementation of requirements that focused on improving teaching and learning and educational outcomes for students and that were in the best interests of teachers and school leaders; and

WHEREAS, Edithe Fulton used her experience as a teacher who entered the profession via the alternate route and her knowledge from more than 50 years as a professional and volunteer in the education community to analyze and consider public education policy; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that it is both fitting and proper that the New Jersey State Board of Education extends its sincerest gratitude to Edithe Fulton for her commitment to the students of New Jersey by devoting her time and energy to the State Board in the development of public education policy in New Jersey; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the State Board members extend best wishes for continued good health and happiness to Edithe Fulton and her family.

Special Guest

President Aponte recognized, Mr. James Boatwright, the former director of The College of New Jersey's Educational Opportunity Fund. He stated that Mr. Boatwright was in attendance at today's meeting to support Dr. Repollet during his first full meeting of the State Board of Education. He also stated that Mr. Boatwright has served as a long-time mentor to Dr. Repollet and has, in the past, served as a resource for State Board committees.

Resolution in Honor of School Library Month

President Aponte presented a resolution to recognize April 2018 as School Library Month. On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board approved the following resolution read by State Board member Joseph Ricca:

RESOLUTION FOR SCHOOL LIBRARY MONTH

WHEREAS, the month of April 2018, has been designated nationally as School Library Month by the American Association of School Librarians; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey State Board of Education recognizes that learning to become effective users of information and ideas is an essential skill for students as they prepare for a future characterized by change; and

WHEREAS, school libraries provide materials that will develop literary, cultural, aesthetic appreciation, and ethical standards; and

WHEREAS, school libraries foster personalized learning experiences for students by providing collaborative work spaces and an environment conducive to reading and learning, creative expression, investigation and research, professional growth, and curriculum development and enhancement; and

WHEREAS, school libraries promote both excellence and equity in education through the variety of educational resources and instruction provided by the school library program; and

WHEREAS, school librarians instruct students with the information skills necessary to think critically, draw conclusions, make informed decisions, and create and share knowledge in preparation for lifelong learning as well as adult decision making and citizenship; and

WHEREAS, it is both fitting and proper that special recognition be given to school library programs and the role of certified school librarians in education throughout the state of New Jersey; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the New Jersey State Board of Education and the Commissioner of Education recognize April 2018 as School Library Month in New Jersey.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS

Science Update

This item was tabled.

State Operated School District Annual Report-Paterson

Eileen Shafer, Interim Superintendent of the State Operated School District of the City of Paterson Public Schools provided her annual report to the State Board of Education. Her report focused on three main topics: Student Achievement, Operations and Facilities.

State Operated School District Annual Report-Newark

Robert Gregory, Interim Superintendent of the State Operated School District of the City of Newark Public Schools provided his annual report to the State Board of Education. His report focused on three main topics: Local Control Transition Update, Update on Recent District Progress, and Next Steps.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:

**Items scheduled for a vote are marked with an asterisk.*

***A. Appointment(s)**

- Approved the following appointment(s) pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:4-32-35 and N.J.A.C. 6A:2-1.1 et seq.:

Appointment

- Diana Pasculli, Chief Strategic Alignment Officer, Division of Executive Services;
- Nicole Brossoie, Chief Public Information Officer, Division of Executive Services.

***B. Certification of School Districts**

- Certified for a period of three years, the following school district(s) recommended by the Commissioner, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7A-14a and b.

Certified School District	County
Mainland Regional	Atlantic
Burlington County Institute of Technology	Burlington
Evesham Township	Burlington
Lumberton Township	Burlington
North Hanover Township	Burlington
Shamong Township	Burlington
Harrison Township	Gloucester
Clinton Glen Gardner	Hunterdon
Flemington-Raritan Regional	Hunterdon
North Hunterdon- Voorhees Regional	Hunterdon
East Windsor	Mercer
South River	Middlesex
Shore Regional	Monmouth
Boonton Town	Morris
Dover	Morris
Kinnelon	Morris
Lincoln Park	Morris
Randolph Township	Morris
Lacey Township	Ocean
Point Pleasant Beach	Ocean
Alloway Township	Salem
Salem Co Spec Serv	Salem
Franklin Township	Somerset
North Plainfield	Somerset
Allamuchy	Warren

***C. Standards and Assessment**

- Adopted the amendments pertaining to the State Seal of Biliteracy at N.J.A.C. 6A:8, pursuant to P.L. 2015, c. 303 and N.J.S.A. 18A:4-15.

***D. Resolution to Revise the Timeline for edTPA Qualifying Cut Scores for Novice Teachers to Receive Certification**

- Adopted the following resolution to extend setting cut scores for the novice teachers to receive certification by one academic year, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-8.2(a)6, N.J.A.C. 6A:9A-5.5(a)2, N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-8.8 and N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-8.7(a)4.

A RESOLUTION TO REVISE THE TIMELINE FOR edTPA QUALIFYING CUT SCORES FOR NOVICE TEACHERS TO RECEIVE CERTIFICATION

WHEREAS, the State Board of Education adopted a resolution on August 3, 2016 that established the cut score and handbook alignment for the Commissioner-approved performance assessment edTPA in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-8.7(a)4i; and

WHEREAS, the State Board of Education resolution permitted the Department to study flexibility options for candidates completing the Commissioner-approved performance assessment; and

WHEREAS, the Department is in the process of collecting and analyzing qualitative and quantitative edTPA data for New Jersey novice teachers and does not yet have enough data on the performance of Certificate of Eligibility (alternate-route) candidates to make an accurate assessment of what an appropriate cut score would be, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the State Board of Education hereby recommends extending setting cut scores by one academic year, to expire on August 31, 2020, at which point a New Jersey-specific standard setting conducted on or before June 1, 2020 will be used to determine a higher cut score; and be it further

RESOLVED, that completing the assessment shall satisfy all relevant regulatory requirements from September 1, 2017 through August 31, 2019; and be it further

RESOLVED that a cut score of 44 on the combined elementary assessment, a cut score of 32 on the world and classical languages assessment, and a cut score of 37 on all other assessments will be acceptable from September 1, 2019 through August 31, 2020 to satisfy all relevant regulatory requirements.

E. Religious Holidays Calendar Resolution

- Discussed the following resolution pertaining to the annual calendar of religious holidays for the 2018-2019 school year as established at N.J.A.C. 6A:32-8.3(j), pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:36-14-16.

**RESOLUTION
THE LIST OF RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS PERMITTING STUDENT ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL**

WHEREAS, according to N.J.S.A. 18A:36-14 through 16 and N.J.A.C. 6A:32-8.3(j), regarding student absence from school because of religious holidays, the Commissioner of Education, with the approval of the State Board of Education, is charged with the responsibility of prescribing such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the purpose of the law; and

WHEREAS, the law provides that:

1. Any student absent from school because of a religious holiday may not be deprived of any award or of eligibility or opportunity to compete for any award because of such absence;
2. Students who miss a test or examination because of absence on a religious holiday must be given the right to take an alternate test or examination;
3. To be entitled to the privileges set forth above, the student must present a written excuse signed by a parent or person standing in place of a parent;
4. Any absence because of a religious holiday must be recorded in the school register or in any group or class attendance record as an excused absence;
5. Such absence must not be recorded on any transcript or application or employment form or on any similar form; and
6. The Commissioner, with the approval of the State Board of Education, is required to:
 - (a) prescribe such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this act; and
 - (b) prepare a list of religious holidays on which it shall be mandatory to excuse a student. The list, however, is to be a minimum list. Boards of education, at their discretion, may add other days to the list for the schools of their districts; and

WHEREAS, although the New Jersey Department of Education makes every attempt to ensure the accuracy of the dates using the lunar, Gregorian and Julian calendars; and

WHEREAS, dates within this resolution may not be fixed before the State Board adopts the annual calendar and may require additional revision; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, the State Board of Education permits the Commissioner of Education, after annual adoption by the State Board of Education, to revise the dates provided in list of religious holidays.

WHEREAS, the district board of education has the right to add any bona fide religious holiday to the list for its own schools; now therefore be it,

RESOLVED that the State Board of Education adopts the following list of religious holidays for the 2018 - 2019 school year:

2018-19 School Year Observances

July 2018

Date	Observance
July 10	Martyrdom of the Bab (Baha'i)
July 22	Tish'a B'Av (Jewish)
July 27	Guru Purnima Asalha Puja Day (Buddhist)

August 2018

Date	Observance
August 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fast in Honor of the Holy Mother of Lord Jesus (Eastern Orthodox Christian)• Lammas (Christian and Wicca)
August 6	Transfiguration of the Lord (Eastern Orthodox Christian)

Date	Observance
August 13-15	Obon (Buddhist)
August 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Catholic Christian) Dormition of the Theotokos (Orthodox Christian) Naga Panchami (Hindu)*¹
August 15-27	Onam (Hindu)*
August 19-24	Hajj Day (Islam)*
August 20-21	Eid al Adha (Islam)*
August 25	Ulambana (Buddhist)
August 29	Raksha Bandhan (Hindu)*

September 2018

Date	Observance
September 1	Ecclesiastical Year begins (Eastern Orthodox Christian)
September 2	Krishna Janmashtami (Hindu)*
September 7	His Holiness Sakya Trizin's Birthday (Buddhist)
September 8	Nativity of Mary (Christian) Nativity of the Theotokos (Eastern Orthodox Christian)
September 9-11	Rosh Hashanah (Jewish)
September 10	Feast of Trumpets (Church of God, Philadelphia Church of God)
September 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Year – Hijra (Islam) 1st Muharram (Islam Dawoodi Bohra)
September 12	Muharram (Islamic New Year)
September 12-20	Ashara Mubarak (Islam Dawoodi Bohra)*
September 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yom Kippur (Jewish) Day of Atonement (Christian, Church of God, Philadelphia Church of God)
September 12-23	Ganesh Chaturthi (Hindu)*
September 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mabon (Wicca/Pagan) Ostara (Wicca/Pagan)
September 23 - 30	Sukkot (Jewish)
September 24-30	Feast of Tabernacles (Church of God, Philadelphia Church of God)
September 27	The Elevation of the Holy Cross (Eastern Orthodox Christian)
September 30- October 2	Sh'mini Atzeret (Jewish)

October 2018

Date	Observance
October 1	Last Great Day (Church of God, Philadelphia Church of God)
October 2	Simchat Torah (Jewish)
October 9-17	Navaratri (Hindu)*
October 18	Dussehra (Hindu)*
October 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Installation of the Scriptures as Guru Granth (Sikh) Birth of B'ab (Baha'i)

¹ * Disclaimer: New Jersey Department of Education has made every attempt to ensure the accuracy of the dates. The information has been verified through the use of various sources and some dates may vary due to the lunar, Gregorian and Julian calendars.

Date	Observance
October 30	Chehlum Imam Husain (Islam Dawoodi Bohra)*
November 2018	
Date	Observance
November 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Saints' Day (Christian) Samhain-Beltane (Wicca)
November 2	All Souls' Day (Christian)
November 7	Diwali (Hindu, Jain and Sikh)*
November 8	Goverdhan Puja (Hindu)*
November 10	Birth of Baha'u'llah (Baha'i)
November 15	Nativity Fast begins (Eastern Orthodox Christian)
November 20	Maulid al-Nabi (Islam and Islam Dawoodi Bohra)*
November 21	The Presentation of the Theotokos to the Temple (Eastern Orthodox Christian)
November 23	Guru Nanak Dev Sahib Birthday (Sikh)
November 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guru Tegh Bahadur Martyrdom (Sikh) Urus-Syedna Mohammed Burhanuddin (Islam Dawoodi Bohra)*
November 26	Day of Covenant (Baha'i)
November 28	Ascension of 'Abdu'l Baha (Baha'i)
December 2018	
Date	Observance
December 2	First Sunday of Advent (Christian)
December 2-10	Hanukkah (Jewish)
December 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bodhi Day (Buddhist) Immaculate Conception (Christian)
December 12	Milad Imam-uz-Zamaan (Islam Dawoodi Bohra)*
December 21	Yule (Wicca and Christian)
December 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christmas (Christian) The Nativity of Christ (Eastern Orthodox Christian)
December 26	Zarathosht Diso (Zoroastrian)
December 28	Milad Syedna Mohammed Burhanuddin (Islam Dawoodi Bohra)*
January 2019	
Date	Observance
January 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gantan-sai (Shinto) Mary, Mother of God - Catholic Christian
January 3 through 10	Holy Convocation (Church of God and Saints of Christ)
January 5	Birthday of Guru Gobind Singh Sahib (Sikh)
January 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feast of Epiphany (Christian) Feast of Theophany (Eastern Orthodox Christian) Nativity of Christ (Armenian Orthodox)
January 7	Feast of the Nativity (Eastern Orthodox Christian)
January 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maghi (Sikh) Bodhi Day (Buddhist)
January 14	Makar Sankranti and Pongal (Hindu)*
January 20	World Religion Day (Baha'i)
January 21	Tu B'shvat (Jewish)
January 28	Chinese/Lunar New Year (Confucian, Daoist, Buddhist)

February 2019

Date	Observance
February 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Imbolic-Candlemas (Wicca and Christian); The Presentation of Our Lord to the Temple (Eastern Orthodox Christian)
February 8	Nirvana Day (Buddhist)
February 10	Vasant Panchami (Hindu)*
February 15	Nirvana Day (Jain)
February 21	Jonah's Passover (Eastern Orthodox Church)
February 26-March 1	Intercalary Days (Baha'i)

March 2019

Date	Observance
March 4	Maha Shivaratri (Hindu)*
March 5	Shrove Tuesday (Christian)
March 6	Ash Wednesday (Christian)
March 11	Clean Monday (Eastern Orthodox Christian)
March 13	L. Ron Hubbard's Birthday (Church of Scientology)
March 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ostara (Wicca) Mabon (Wicca/Pagan Northern and Southern Hemispheres)
March 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Purim (Jewish) Holi (Hindu)* Nowruz (Zoroastrian) Lord's Evening Meal (Christian, Jehovah's Witness) Ayyam al Beez (Islam Dawoodi Bohra)*
March 22-24	Hola Mohalla (Sikh)*
March 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Annunciation of the Theotokos (Eastern Orthodox Christian) The Annunciation of the Virgin Mary (Christian) Urus – Syedna Taher Saifuddin (Islam Dawoodi Bohra)*
March 28	Khordad Sal (Zoroastrian)

April 2019

Date	Observance
April 2	Yawm al-Mab'ath (Islam Dawoodi Bohra)*
April 3	Lailat al Miraj (Islam)*
April 5	Souramana Yugadi (Hindu)*
April 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Last Day of Unleavened Bread (Church of God) Chandramana Yugadi (Hindu)*
April 8	Buddha's Birthday/Buddha Day-Buddha Day*
April 13-20	Memorial of the Feast of the Lord's Passover (Church of God and Saints of Christ) Passover/Days of Unleavened Bread (Church of God and Saints of Christ) March 31-April 6
April 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Palm Sunday Ramnavami (Hindu)*
April 17	Mahavir Jayanti (Jain)
April 18	Holy Thursday (Christian)

Date	Observance
April 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Passover (United Church of God) Holy Friday (Christian) Hanuman Jayanti (Hindu)*
April 19-21	Theravadin New Year (Buddhist)
April 20-26	Days of Unleavened Bread (Philadelphia Church of God)
April 20-27	Passover (Jewish)
April 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First Day of Unleavened Bread (Church of God) Lazarus Saturday (Eastern Orthodox Christian)
April 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Easter (Christian) Palm Sunday (Eastern Orthodox Christian) First Day of Ridvan (Baha'i) Lailat al Bara'ah (Islam)*
April 22	Easter Monday (Christian)
April 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The 11th Panchen Lama's Birthday (Buddhist) Holy Thursday (Eastern Orthodox Christian)
April 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holy Friday (Eastern Orthodox Christian) The Last Friday of The Great Lent (Eastern Orthodox Church)
April 28	Easter (Eastern Orthodox Christian)
April 29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ninth Day of Ridvan (Baha'i) Bright Monday (Eastern Orthodox Christian)

May 2019

Date	Observance
May 1	Beltane (Wicca)
May 2	Twelfth Day of Ridvan (Baha'i)
May 6-June 4	Ramadan (Islam)
May 9	Yom Ha'Azmaut (Jewish)
May 18	Visakha Puja (Buddhist)
May 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lag B'Omer (Jewish) Declaration of the Bab (Baha'i) Shahada – Amirul Mumineen (Islam Dawoodi Bohra)*
May 26-27	Laylatul Qadr (Islam Dawoodi Bohra)*
May 27	Milad Syedna Mufaddal Saifuddin (Islam Dawoodi Bohra)*
May 29	Ascension of Baha'u'llah (Baha'i)
May 30	Ascension of Our Lord (Christian)
May 31	Aakhir Jumo'a (Islam Dawoodi Bohra)*

June 2019

Date	Observance
June 1	Laylat as-Qadr (Islam)*
June 4	Eid al Fitr (Islam and Islam Dawoodi Bohra)*
June 9	Pentecost (Christian)
June 9-10	Shavuot (Jewish)
June 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Martyrdom of Guru Arjan Dev Sahib (Sikh) Pentecost (Eastern Orthodox Christian)
June 21	Litha (Wicca)
June 24	Fast of the Holy Apostles (Eastern Orthodox Christian)

WORK SESSION

There was no work session.

NEW BUSINESS

President Aponte requested that the Department make a presentation that provides greater detail on NAEP results for New Jersey at the May 2, 2018 State Board meeting. He also stated that the May 2, 2018 meeting should include the Science Update since it was tabled.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board of Education adjourned its April 11, 2018, public meeting at 1:44 p.m.

Dr. Lamont O. Repollet, Acting Commissioner
Acting Secretary, N.J. State Board of Education